



## Tennis Europe and TennisLMS Launch Partnership



Tennis Europe has announced a two-year partnership agreement with Tennis LMS, recognising the company as the 'Official Player Development Platform of Tennis Europe'.

An innovative US-based company devoted to the provision of player development services, TennisLMS (Learning Management System) is a revolutionary new web-based system of self-assessment and development tools, which identify trends and target areas for training. The system can be used by players and coaches to track long and short-term performance in many key areas, and has also been adapted for clubs, academies and tennis associations in order to enable comparisons between players and to identify problem areas as well as successful methods.

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*Photo: left to right, TennisLMS President Kelly Jones and Founder/Chairman Sasha Frljanic at the recent European Coaches Symposium*

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### 2009 European Tennis Calendar Now Online

Tennis Europe's unique European Tennis Calendar for 2009 has been published. The online tool details all international tennis events set to take place within the organisations' 49 constituent countries throughout the coming year, and includes information from all official organisers, encompassing the Under 12, 14 and 16 Tennis Europe Junior Tours to ITF Juniors, Seniors, Professional, Wheelchair and Beach Tennis circuits, the ATP and Sony Ericsson WTA Tours, plus conferences, trade shows, coaching events and exhibitions.

The calendar, searchable by date, country or organising body, also details the event website, court surface, tournament category and draw information, making the calendar an essential tool for players, coaches, fans and those working within the tennis industry. Visit the Tennis Europe website, or click on the banner below to access.

**EUROPEAN TENNIS CALENDAR**  
**ALL EUROPEAN EVENTS ONLINE** *CLICK HERE*

## Tennis Europe and TennisLMS Launch Partnership

*(Continued from page 1)*

In addition to the partnership, TennisLMS will also be promoted as the 'Recommended Player Development Platform' of the Tennis Europe Junior Tour. The 300+ tournaments for players aged 12, 14 and 16 & Under that comprise the Tour have showcased the arrival of almost every major player over the past twenty years, and see annual participation from around 10,000 European junior players.

Finally, the system will also be known as the Official Player Development Platform of the Tour's flagship competition, the European Junior Championships as well as Presenting Partner of the 18 & Under European Summer Cups, an outdoor team event open to all 49 Tennis Europe member nations.

Tennis Europe Chief Executive Officer, Olli Mäenpää comments: "We recognise that today's players are faced with an increasingly overwhelming choice of tools to help with their development. That's why we are delighted to team with TennisLMS, who offer an unrivalled and incredibly comprehensive service for players, whatever their level. We look forward to further developing the partnership and to exploring how the many junior players who compete on our tours can benefit from this technology, as well as the national federations and coaches to whom we remain deeply committed."

TennisLMS Founder and Chairman Sasha Frljanic adds: "Having already been enthusiastically embraced by many high profile players, coaches and academies this side of the Atlantic, Tennis Europe is the natural partner for TennisLMS as we look to further promote the system. The potential for the future development of the partnership is endless and we look forward to being able to contribute to the enhancement of training and development of players and coaches in Europe."

TennisLMS President Kelly Jones emphasizes: "We are very excited about our newest partnership with Tennis Europe. This is a major step towards our goal of expanding TennisLMS internationally. For the first time all parties involved in building tennis players (Parents, Coaches, National Federations) will have all information in one place to track player's performance. Combining Player Report Card, Video Analysis, Match Analysis, Fitness Tests, and Periodization is going to revolutionize the way we track player's development in the future, and will enable each player to better reach their full potential."



## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Latest



2008's record-breaking season is set to be followed by further expansion next year as the Tennis Europe Junior Tour continues to extend its network of events across the continent.

As the circuits move into their twentieth year, all three age groups will benefit from increased playing opportunities with the total number of events sure to exceed this year's total of 316 events once the final events have been added in the coming weeks.

The 12 & under Tour will feature 56 events in 2009 (a rise of three from 2008), whilst the 14 and 16 & under event figures remain stable, currently numbering 104

and 94 respectively, with several more yet to be confirmed.

In addition to regular Tour events, the circuits will as usual be highlighted by the prestigious European Junior Championships, staged in the summer for individuals and twice annually (the indoor Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD in February and the outdoor European Summer Cups in August) for teams. The 12 & Under Tennis Europe Nations Challenge by HEAD will once again be the main event for the youngest age category. Now in its third year, the event has been a runaway success.

The final events of December are being held this week for players aged 14 & under. St Genevieve des Bois in France is hosting a particularly tough Category 1 event, which sees 8 of the top 10 boys in action, while

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Tennis Europe bids farewell to retiring Charlotte Ferrari

As 2008 draws to a close, Tennis Europe will be saying goodbye to a woman who has been part of the organisation since its very creation in 1975. The organisation's Managing Director of Administration Charlotte Ferrari has survived six Presidents, three headquarters and 31 annual general meetings, steering the organisation through its growth from 17 original member nations to today's 49.

Her hands-on approach and excellent linguistic skills - not to mention longevity in her role at Tennis Europe - has meant that there can be few administrators in the tennis world who have not at some point dealt with Charlotte.

Tribute was paid to Charlotte at the recent Tennis Europe staff Christmas dinner in Basel, where the staff of the organisation were joined by five of the six previous Presidents, all of whom were keen to thank the woman who had been a vital support during their presidencies.

ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti jokingly recalled Charlotte's "too early!" morning phone calls during his time as President of the European Tennis Association, as Tennis Europe was then known, and said that "Charlotte was the best assistant anyone could ever hope to have. Always available, she is affective, sensitive, intelligent, has a special relationship with people and has always been a great example and has left a wonderful legacy for her colleagues."

Agustin Pujol, President from 2000 to 2002, thanked Charlotte both "personally, for all the help she gave me during my presidency, and professionally, because tennis is losing one of its best administrators"

John James congratulated Charlotte for her "tireless efforts" on behalf of European tennis, saying that she has been hugely influential to the strength and

achievements of Tennis Europe over the years.

Current President Jacques Dupré then added his own personal tribute to Charlotte before presenting her with a special gift on behalf of the board of management. Finally, the staff of Tennis Europe thanked Charlotte for her friendship, both personal and professional with their own gift and a humorous biographical video depicting her career at Tennis Europe.

Heinz Grimm, the ITF Honorary Life Vice-President whose office in Basel served as an early base for the European Tennis Association worked closely with

Charlotte from the early days of the organisation, remembered, "When Charlotte first came to us as a secretary, nobody knew what a great person she was or how well she would come to be appreciated by all of the national associations, and everybody will miss her greatly. One little fact has reminded me of



*Above: left to right, Tennis Europe President Jacques Dupré joined former Presidents John James, Francesco Ricci Bitti, Agustin Pujol and Heinz Grimm to pay tribute to Charlotte Ferrari (centre)*

Charlotte: very often in my business career, when I had to scribble down notes or sentences, I was unable afterwards to decipher my own handwriting. My last hope then, was Charlotte, who always got me out of trouble as she was the only one, who could read my awful handwriting!"

Charlotte and husband Pierino intend to spend their retirement working on their golf handicaps, relaxing and enjoying time with Hippi, their six-month old Bolonka Zvetna puppy who was also to be seen at the Christmas dinner. She promises to remain in regular contact with Tennis Europe and has agreed to lend her experience to help out occasionally in the future.

## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Latest

(Continued from page 2)

Wrexham (GBR) has an exceptionally strong Category 3 tournament where home players will no doubt be hoping to keep up their record of finishing with a win in all six of the U14 events to have been played in Europe since the beginning of November.

With those two tournaments still in play, Russia has once again underlined its dominance of the Tennis Europe Junior in 2008, with its players accounting for a massive total of 147 titles on the boys and girls 12, 14 and 16 & under circuits.

Printable versions of the Tour calendars can be found here: [Under 12](#) | [Under 14](#) | [Under 16](#), while further information about the **Tennis Europe Junior Tour** can be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document, or at the organisation's website, [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org).

Historical year-end rankings for the years 1990-1999 have recently been added to the website, giving a complete look at the year end rankings since the beginning of the Tour for the first time. Click [here](#) for more information.

\* Some doubles titles are counted twice in case of split-nationality pairs.

### Top European nations on the Tennis Europe Junior Tour 2008 (in terms of titles won)

1	RUSSIA	147
2	ITALY	77
3	UKRAINE	76
4	GREAT BRITAIN	58
5	GERMANY	56
6	CZECH REPUBLIC	55
7	SLOVAK REPUBLIC	46
8	ROMANIA	38
9	SERBIA	36
10	BELARUS	34

## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rule Changes for 2009

A number of important rule changes will be implemented in 2009. The following is a brief summary of some of the most important. A full list of the rule changes can be found [here](#).

### Doubles Scoring System:

Following an experiment in 2008, all doubles events on the 12, 14 and 16 & Under Tennis Europe Junior Tours will be played over two tie-break sets, with a Match Tie-break (first to ten points) in the event of a decider.

### Entry/Withdrawal Deadlines:

In the interests of consistency, all regular Tour events for players aged 12, 14 and 16 & Under will feature the same deadlines for entries (Monday 4 weeks before the start of the main draw) and withdrawals (Monday 2 weeks before the start of the main draw).

### Age Eligibility:

Due to a change of the ITF's age eligibility rules, players aged 9 or younger can no longer take part in 12 & Under events.

### European Junior Championships:

Captains of national teams competing at this event no longer have to have the same nationality as the team, though they must of course continue to be nominated by the national federation.

### European Summer Cups:

ITF rules state that teams competing at the European Summer Cups must wear their national uniforms.



## In the Spotlight: Toni Roponen & Polar

Regular readers will know that in September of this year, Tennis Europe announced a three-year partnership with Polar. Toni Roponen is their Sports Marketing Manager, as well as a distinguished performance coach, having spent 4 years as Finland's Biathlon Head Coach, as well as successfully working with World Championship level skiers. We caught up with him to find out their motives for the cooperation, and what their products have to offer the world of tennis.

***For those who aren't familiar with it, can you tell us a little bit about the background to Polar, the company?***

Polar is now over 30 years old and is a market leader in heart rate monitoring and training equipment, having revolutionised the field with original thinking and innovative products. The company is the global leader in providing training technology and solutions with true passion and personality for athletes looking to maximise their fitness and sports performance.

***Why has Polar decided to enter the tennis world at this point, and why with Tennis Europe?***

Tennis is one of the biggest sports in the world, and athletes have to be in perfect shape during their tournaments. We think that Polar heart rate computers can be a perfect tool for athletes to reach their goals – in any sport. But tennis is a perfect new sport for us to engage with, and has a lot of potential due to the sheer number of players.

***How can Polar products be used specifically to benefit tennis players?***

There are many ways: One of the main things is to realize how difficult a sport tennis actually is. You need so many different physical components to be in place during competition; speed, strength, stamina – a game can last three hours or more. Heart rate computers can enable you to achieve these things by optimizing your training load.

***Polar was present at the recent European Coaches Symposium, where top coaches such as Spain's Vicente Calvo demonstrated the usefulness of HRMs as a training tool. Do you have other examples of well-known trainers from the sporting world using Polar products?***

Polar's equipment is very well-known in different sports.

Over 50% of top endurance sport athletes use Polar monitor during their training. In addition, about 85% premier league football teams in England use our team systems to monitor training. In tennis we have many clubs and teams who are already using our products in training.

***Ski fans will be familiar with Polar from TV coverage of Cross-Country and Nordic skiing, where live heart rate data from the athletes is broadcast during the competition. How is this useful for viewers, and can you envisage something similar in tennis one day?***

It gives more detailed information for spectators about the sport itself. It is amazing to realize that a skier's heart rate can be over 90% from the maximum for about 45 minutes. In tennis it would be interesting to see what happens during a long game: the best players are usually in better shape and I am sure that they recover faster from a gruelling rally or a long point. It would be interesting to see what are the real fitness differences between the athletes.

***2008 marks your first year as presenting sponsor of the Tennis Europe Junior Tour's Players of the Year awards. Why was this***

***something that appealed to Polar?***

We are very enthusiastic about working with the next generation. We think that we can make a big difference to athletes performance if they learn to use Polar monitors as a tool. Training is always the most important factor in all sports and we just want to help athletes to make the right choices.

***What does Polar hope to achieve in the next years, both with Tennis Europe, and for the company as a whole?***

As a company we feel that with our new models (FT40, 60, 80 and Team 2 system) we are already very successful globally. Tennis is a new sport for us and with Tennis Europe we will try to do as much educational work as possible so that tennis players see that Polar computers can be a perfect tool for their sport.

For more information about Polar products, please visit [www.polar.fi](http://www.polar.fi)



Toni Roponen (left), with Tennis Europe Chief Executive Officer Olli Mäenpää in Basel.

## Spain claims third Davis Cup by BNP Paribas

Fernando Verdasco earned the win of his life to secure the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas title for Spain, outlasting Jose Acasuso in five sets on the final day of the competition's climax in Mar del Plata, Argentina.

The Spanish #3 had substituted David Ferrer for the final day's reverse singles match after a good performance in the doubles tie alongside Feliciano Lopez which had given the Spaniards a 2-1 advantage going into the final day.

Both teams were badly hit by injuries. Spain's world #1 Rafael Nadal was forced to withdraw from the squad on the eve of the final whilst Argentina's #1 Juan Martín del Potro, arguably the most improved player on tour this season, was hampered by a string of ailments as he went down to López before withdrawing from further action.

It was the first time in the history of the competition that two Spanish-speaking nations had contested the final. With the win, Spain ended Argentina's 13-tie unbeaten run at home

Both teams will see changes in captaincy ahead of the 2009 event. Emilio Sanchez Vicario bows out on top having led the national team to their third title since



2001, and will be succeeded by Albert Costa, as reported elsewhere in this edition of the newsletter.

Meanwhile Alberto Mancini's leadership of the Argentine squad ended in disappointment, having fallen at the final hurdle for the second time in three years. He will be replaced by Modesto Vázquez.

## 2009 Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD Preview



There are just six weeks to go until the start of the Europe's biggest indoor junior tennis competition, the Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD.

Now in its 33rd year, the 2009 edition of the event has attracted a record entry list, with 128 national teams set to

compete at the qualifying rounds during the weekends of **February 06-08** and 13-15.

The winner and runner-up from each qualifying zone will advance to the finals, which will take place during the weekend of **February 20-22** at four venues across the continent.

Russia has dominated the girls event in recent years, and both 14 and 16 & under teams begin their quest for an eighth title in ten years in neighbouring Belarus.

Defending boys 14 & under champions start their campaign at a tough qualifying zone in Sweden, while 16 & Under champions Hungary will be hoping to repeat their first ever win in the event last year with a good start in Cholet (FRA).

The full repartition of nations and list of venues can be found on the next page. For further updates, full results from previous years, and photo galleries from the competition, please visit [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org).

## Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD Preview

GIRLS 14 & UNDER	
<b>Zone A: Minsk (BLR)</b>	Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovak Rep.
<b>Zone B: Bree (BEL)</b>	Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain
<b>Zone C: Rakovník (CZE)</b>	Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Great Britain, Montenegro, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland
<b>Zone D: Ascoli (ITA)</b>	Bulgaria, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Portugal, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine
<b>Finals: Leeuwarden (NED)</b>	
BOYS 14 & UNDER	
<b>Zone A: Frydlant (CZE)</b>	Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Netherlands, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia, Slovak Republic
<b>Zone B: Correggio (ITA)</b>	Austria, Great Britain, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland
<b>Zone C: Växjö (SWE)</b>	Belarus, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Norway, Sweden
<b>Zone D: Istanbul (TUR)</b>	Bulgaria, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine
<b>Finals: Pruhonic (CZE)</b>	
GIRLS 16 & UNDER	
<b>Zone A: Minsk (BLR)</b>	Belarus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Ireland, Russia, Sweden, Ukraine
<b>Zone B: Maniago (ITA)</b>	Bulgaria, Georgia, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain
<b>Zone C: Zutphen (NED)</b>	Belgium, Germany, Great Britain, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Turkey
<b>Zone D: Aarau (SUI)</b>	Austria, Croatia, Greece, France, Hungary, Israel, Serbia, Switzerland
<b>Finals: Ronchin (FRA)</b>	
BOYS 16 & UNDER	
<b>Zone A: Ebreichsdorf (AUT)</b>	Austria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Serbia, Switzerland
<b>Zone B: Cholet (FRA)</b>	Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Hungary, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, Turkey
<b>Zone C: Bergen (NOR)</b>	Belarus, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden
<b>Zone D: Moscow (RUS)</b>	Bulgaria, Great Britain, Estonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine
<b>Finals: Vendryne (CZE)</b>	



## CIT Director Costa Named Spanish Davis Cup Captain



Albert Costa, one of the greatest players in Spanish tennis history and current director of Tennis Europe's Official Academy Partner, the Centre International de Tennis, has been named as the new captain of the Spanish Davis Cup team.

Costa, whose candidacy was supported by the great majority of Spanish players had already left open the possibility of the dual role when accepting his post at the Catalan Tennis Federation-run academy near Barcelona last month. For his part, FCT President Francesc Orriols said that he did not foresee any incompatibility between the two roles. Costa, who has committed himself to the captaincy for at least one year will make his debut as captain in Benidorm against Serbia next March.

Also at the CIT this month have been two mainstays of the Italian Fed Cup team, Flavia Pennetta and Francesca Schiavone, who together with coach Gabriel Rupi have chosen the CIT as their base to prepare for the coming season, combining training sessions with occasional collaborations with the girls training group at the academy.

Another big name to have trained recently at the CIT is Feliciano López, one of the heroes of the victorious Spanish Davis Cup who returned from Argentina with their third trophy recently. Along with coach Josep Pellas, López used the CIT installations as he began the process of preparing for a the season ahead in which he hopes, buoyed by Davis Cup success, to make a new leap forward in his own career.

The CIT has also been celebrating the successes of some future stars, notably Ema Burgic, a 2007 Tennis Europe Junior Tour Player of the Year who won her first professional title at the ITF \$10,000 event in Vall d'Uxo a couple of weeks ago while based at the academy.



*Images: top, Albert Costa, director of CIT and Davis Cup captain. Below, Feliciano López and the CIT take a break from training.*

Looking back over the year, the CIT also recognises the progression of one of their resident players, 19-year old Basque-born Iñigo Cervantes. Having arrived at the centre in October 2007 with an ATP ranking of 1197, Cervantes ends the year as one of the most improved players, ending the year ranked #382 under the supervision of Jordi Arrese and CIT trainer Juanse Martínez.



### TENNIS EUROPE JUNIOR TOUR - DID YOU KNOW?

Former winners of this weeks' 14 & under event in St. Genevieve des Bois, France include Rafael Nadal, Richard Gasquet, Tommy Robredo, Martina Hingis





## Beyond the Baseline...



**R o g e r Federer** has released his 2009 calendar on his [official website](#). As usual, proceeds from the sale of the calendar - which features 13 ex-

clusive on and off court pictures - go to benefit the Roger Federer Foundation.

The **International Tennis Federation** has named world #1s **Rafael Nadal** (ESP) and **Jelena Jankovic** (SRB) as 2008 **ITF World Champions**. Top ranked doubles teams **Daniel Nestor** (CAN)/ **Nenad Zimonjic** (SRB) and **Cara Black** (ZIM)/ **Liesel Huber** (USA) are the World Doubles Champions, whilst **Shingo Kuniida** (JPN) and **Esther Vergeer** (NED) cap a year in which both went unbeaten to claim the wheelchair tennis honours. **Tsung-Hua Yang** (TPE) and **Noppawan Lertcheewakarn** (THA) become the first Asian players to be named as ITF Junior World Champions. The winners will receive their awards at the annual ITF World Champions dinner at Roland Garros on 2nd June.

2003 Roland Garros finalist **Martin Verkerk** has announced his retirement. Currently ranked #263, the former Netherlands #1 has suffered from a chronic shoulder injury since his career best year, and told Dutch TV that he no longer believes it possible to return to the top 100. Meanwhile another Dutchman, recently retired **Raemon Sluiter**, has reportedly decided to pick up his racquet for one last run at the top 100, and will play his first events in the spring.

Former world #1 **Justine Henin** has revealed that she will return to the courts in 2009, for a one-off exhibition with Denmark's fast-rising **Caroline Wozniacki**.

**Cedric Pioline** of France won the **BlackRock Masters Trophy**, the season-ending Seniors tour event at

the Royal Albert Hall in London, coming from match point down to outlast newcomer **Greg Rusedski** 67(4) 76 (3) 11-9 in a thrilling match. The event, which saw participation from Pete Sampras, John McEnroe and Stefan Edberg amongst others, broke attendance records with 35,000 people attending during the week.

**Roger Federer** has announced plans to alter his preparation for the only Grand Slam to elude him – Roland Garros – by playing just two clay court events in 2009, Masters 1000 tournaments in Rome and Madrid.

The **Spanish Tennis Federation** has announced that Benidorm will be the venue for the highly-anticipated first-round Davis Cup by BNP Paribas tie with Serbia from 6-8 March. Local authorities plan to construct a temporary 14,000-seater arena for the tie. Meanwhile, **Swiss Tennis** has announced that the Saalsporthalle Zurich stadium will be the venue of the Fed Cup World Group II tie between Switzerland and Germany on 7-8 February.

The French Tennis Federation has named **Nicolas Escudé** as the new captain for the Fed Cup team. Former ATP pro Escudé was a member of the last winning French Davis Cup team in 2001, scoring two singles wins to clinch the tie.

The ski resort of St. Anton, Austria was the venue for the **St. Anton Trophy** exhibition in early December. A number of European players took the opportunity to train and play at altitude, with home players performing particularly well. **Patricia Mayr** scored two of the best wins of her career to upset Patty Schnyder and Sofia Arvidsson for the women's title, whilst Germany's **Philip Kohlschrieber** beat home hope Stefan Koubek for the mens. An injured Marat Safin was forced to withdraw from his scheduled exhibition with Novak Djokovic. The world #3 instead took on compatriot Janko Tipsarevic, losing 9-8.

The **All-England Club** has announced that a special event will be held on Wimbledon's centre court on Sunday 17th May, giving organisers a chance to test the new retractable roof which will be used for the first time at the Championships in June.



The 2008 Wimbledon Men's final was the most watched sporting event on UK television in 2008, with more viewers in total than the Champions League Final, the EURO 2008 Final or any single Olympic event.

Source: BARB viewing figures.

**HEAD**

**SHANGHAI**  
Tennis Masters Cup

**PARIS-BERCY**  
BNP Paribas Masters

**MADRID**  
Mutua Madrileña Masters

**HAMBURG**  
Masters Series

**ROME**  
Internazionali BNL d'Italia

**MONTÉ CARLO**  
Masters Series

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\*) ATP in Europe and Davis Cup ties in season 2007

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cool<sup>ee</sup>earth.org



## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings - 14 & Under

November and December are usually a quiet time on the Tennis Europe Junior Tour, and this year is no exception. Christopher Pearce of Great Britain (pictured) is the only new entry to the European 14 & under top ten, having reached the semi final of the Category 2 event in Ostrava (CZE) earlier this month.

Pearce rises to become the British #2 but he has a lot of competition, with nine UK players currently in the top fifty.

Visit [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org), for the rankings in full. Rankings below as of 18th December 2008.



14 & Under Girls		Player	Country	Points Total
1	▶	Petra UBERALOVA	SVK	720
2	▶	Yulia PUTINTSEVA	RUS	700
3	▶	Irina KHROMACHEVA	RUS	655
4	▶	Leolia JEANJEAN	FRA	430
5	▶	Yuliya LYSA	UKR	415
6	▶	Darya LEBESHEVA	BLR	410
7	▶	Olga IANCHUK	UKR	405
8	▶	Sonja LIASKOVA	CZE	365
9	▶	Victoriya TOMOVA	BLR	340
10	▶	Petra ROHANOVA	CZE	335
14 & Under Boys		Player	Country	Points Total
1	▶	Nikola MILOJEVIC	SRB	390
2	▶	Luke BAMBRIDGE	GBR	335
3	▶	Gianluigi QUINZI	ITA	315
4	▶	Stefano NAPOLITANO	ITA	310
5	▶	Borna CORIC	CRO	290
6	▶	Karlo SKVORC	CRO	270
7	▶	Pylyp KEKERCHENI	UKR	260
8	<b>NEW</b>	Christopher PEARCE	GBR	260
9	▼	Matteo DONATI	ITA	260
10	▼	Sergis KYRATZIS	CYP	260

## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings - 16 & Under

There are no changes to the 16 & Under rankings this month as no tournaments are scheduled for the months of November and December for this age group.

Pictured is #8-ranked Julia Stamatova of Bulgaria.

Rankings are published each Thursday at [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org). Rankings below as of 18th December 2008.



16 & Under Girls		Player	Country	Points Total
1	▶	Cristina DINU	ROU	635
2	▶	Ingrid RADU	ROU	495
3	▶	Despoina PAPAMICHAIL	GRE	470
4	▶	Luksika KUMKHUM	THA	380
5	▶	Jovana JAKSIC	SRB	370
6	▶	Irini PAPAGEORGIU	GRE	360
7	▶	Timea BABOS	HUN	350
8	▶	Julia STAMATOVA	BUL	350
9	▶	Natalia VAVULINA	BLR	345
10	▶	Eleni KORDOLAIMI	GRE	300

16 & Under Boys		Player	Country	Points Total
1	▶	Vasile Alexandru GHILEA	ROU	385
2	▶	Adrian PARTL	SVK	380
3	▶	Mate PAVIC	CRO	370
4	▶	Ciprian PORUMB	ROU	355
5	▶	Andrea DALL'ASTA	ITA	340
6	▶	Dimitar KUZMANOV	BUL	280
7	▶	Alexander METREVELI	GEO	275
8	▶	Oliver GOLDING	GBR	275
9	▶	Vullnet TASHI	SUI	260
10	▶	Dor BELFER	ISR	255



## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Results

### 14 & UNDER

DATE	TOURNAMENT	CAT.	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	SCORE	DOUBLES WINNERS
Nov-17	Stavanger (NOR)	3	B Harris (GBR)	P Hovorka (CZE)	63 67(5) 64	Colautti/Harris (GBR)
			S Lohan (IRL)	G Dixon (GBR)	62 63	Dixon (GBR)/Lohan (IRL)
Dec-08	Ostrava (CZE)	2	K Edmund (GBR)	E Py (FRA)	76(5) 61	Bambridge/Hoyt (GBR)
			S Honigova (CZE)	B Krejcikova (CZE)	60 61	Danilina/Margulis (RUS)

Full drawsheets from all Tennis Europe Junior Tour competitions can be found online.

## ITF Pro Circuits (Europe) Results

### ITF Men's Circuit

Week	Venue	Cat.	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles
Nov-17	Ramat Hasharon	\$15,000	A Haider-Maurer	J Mertl (CZE)	67(3) 62	Knittel (GER)/Radschnitting (AUT)
Nov-24	Ramat Hasharon	\$15,000	A Haider-Maurer	S Rieschick (GER)	76(4) 64	Ludovic-Duclos (CAN)/Hadad
Dec-08	Frydland (CZE)	\$15,000	R Vik (CZE)	D Lustig (CZE)	64 62	Fleming/Murray (GBR)

### ITF Women's Circuit

Nov-17	Odense (DEN)	\$100,000	C Wozniacki (DEN)	S Arvidsson (SWE)	62 61	Borwell (GBR)/Nagle (USA)
Nov-17	Opole (POL)	\$25,000	A Rus (NED)	A Vrljic (CRO)	46 75 63	Kosinska/Rosolska (POL)
Nov-24	Vall d'Uxo (ESP)	\$10,000	E Burgic (BIH)	L Costas (ESP)	62 61	Sainz Pelegri (ESP)/Weinhold
Nov-24	La Reunion	\$25,000	P Mayr (AUT)	A Parra (ESP)	64 61	Klaschka/Siegemund (GER)
Dec-01	Vinaros (ESP)	\$10,000	C Perrin (SUI)	E Kostova (BUL)	64 62	Buyukakcay (TUR)/Sainz-Pelegri
Dec-08	Benicarló (ESP)	\$10,000	MT Torro Flor (ESP)	A Weinhold (USA)	64 16 75	Kozic (SRB)/Pavlova (BUL)



### Is the off-season driving you crazy?

Visit the Tennis Europe Junior Tour Gallery!

Individual galleries from more than fifty of 2008's European tour events, and over 5,000 images in total!

<http://gallery.tenniseurope.org/gallery.aspx>

## ITF Pro Circuits

### Rule Changes 2009

The International Tennis Federation has announced some important rule changes for the Men's Circuit in 2009.

Entry and withdrawal deadlines will from now on be on different days; the entry deadline will fall on a Thursday at 14h00 GMT 18 days (two and half weeks) prior to the start of a tournament). The withdrawal deadline will be on Tuesday at 14h00 GMT, 13 days before the start of the tournament.

Also, unranked players will in future have to enter ITF Futures events in advance, before the entry deadline.

Full details of all the rule changes can be found [here](#) in a number of languages.

### 2008 Pro Circuits Round-Up

With just one event still to be decided (the \$15,000 men's Futures event in Opava, CZE), the ITF Pro Circuits in Europe are drawing to a close after another hectic year. In total 282 men's and 253 women's tournaments have been held with prize money totalling around \$8,000,000.

Italy was the dominant nation on both circuits, leading the way with 36 men's and 26 women's singles titles won. Other countries to excel on the men's circuit were France (28 titles), Spain (27), Romania (18) and Czech republic and Germany (17 apiece). Trailing Italy on the Women's Circuit was Russia (23), Germany (22), Netherlands (17) and Spain (15).

**Nicolas Coutelot** (FRA), **Victor Iontia** (ROU), **Rui Machado** (POR) and **Tomas Tenconi** (ITA) all won six men's singles titles during the season, followed by **Teodor Craciun** (ROU) and **Gabriel Moraru** (ROU) with five. On the ITF Women's Circuit, two players won five tournaments: **Patricia Mayr** (AUT) and **Masa Zec-Peskirc** (SLO). Three players - **Anna-Lena Groenefeld** (GER), **Marlot Meddens** (NED) and **Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova** (RUS) won four events, while 17 won three.

39 players won singles and doubles at the same event, but only one player did it on three occasions: **Lisa Sabino** (ITA) doubled up at \$10,000 events in Brescia, Vic and Gorizia.



**Mara Santangelo** (ITA) won two of the circuits' biggest events - \$100,000 tournaments in Biella and Ortisei: both times as a wild card entry!

Events were won by top 100 players on 15 occasions, with #12 **Caroline Wozniacki** being the highest ranked player to compete on the circuit.

10 unranked female players (and only two men) went on to win titles, of which **Jelena Dokic's** \$25,000 Florence win was the biggest. Two players - **Bojana Jovanovski** (SRB) and **Lenka Jurikova** (SVK) won two events without a ranking.

The youngest winner on the circuit was Britain's **Laura Robson**, who won the Sunderland \$10,000 at 14 years and 10 months of age. Former Tennis Europe Junior Tour Player of the Year **Grigor Dimitrov** was the youngest winner on the men's circuit at the age of 17 years 1 month in Valldoreix.

The oldest female winner was **Tzipi Obziler** (ISR), who won the Tenerife \$25,000 at 34 years 11 months. **Younes El Aynaoui** of Morocco claims the honours of oldest overall though, winning Castelldefels at 36 years and 6 months.

Updated seven days a week, all the latest draws, results, schedules, tournament fact sheets and entry lists for ITF Men's and Women's Circuit events in Europe are available at [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org).

## European Rankings

There are no changes to the European top 10 rankings this month as the players continue to enjoy the off-season.

The only player on either list to see a change to their ranking points total is Caroline Wozniacki (right), whose win at the \$100,000 ITF Pro Circuit event in Odense gave her a rare chance to compete in her home country, and marked the 18-year old's fourth singles title of a year in which she has risen over 50 places on the WTA rankings.

Rankings as of December 15th, 2008.



WOMEN		PLAYER	COUNTRY	WTA TOUR RANK	POINTS TOTAL
1	▶	Jelena JANKOVIC	SRB	1	4710
2	▶	Dinara SAFINA	RUS	3	3817
3	▶	Elena DEMENTIEVA	RUS	4	3663
4	▶	Ana IVANOVIC	SRB	5	3457
5	▶	Vera ZVONAREVA	RUS	7	2952
6	▶	Svetlana KUZNETSOVA	RUS	8	2726
7	▶	Maria SHARAPOVA	RUS	9	2515
8	▶	Agnieszka RADWANSKA	POL	10	2286
9	▶	Nadia PETROVA	RUS	11	1976
10	▶	Caroline WOZNIACKI	DEN	12	1713

MEN		PLAYER	COUNTRY	ATP ENTRY RANK	POINTS TOTAL
1	▶	Rafael NADAL	ESP	1	6675
2	▶	Roger FEDERER	SUI	2	5305
3	▶	Novak DJOKOVIC	SRB	3	5295
4	▶	Andy MURRAY	GBR	4	3720
5	▶	Nikolay DAVYDENKO	RUS	5	2715
6	▶	Jo-Wilfried TSONGA	FRA	6	2050
7	▶	Gilles SIMON	FRA	7	1980
8	▶	David FERRER	ESP	12	1695
9	▶	Stanislas WAWRINKA	SUI	13	1510
10	▶	Gael MONFILS	FRA	14	1475

## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Season's greetings from Tennis Europe President Jacques Dupré and all the staff: Flurin Conrad, Charlotte Ferrari, Magnus Grönvold, Jonathan Jobson, Stephanie Kamperi, Nadja Koran, Carola Löffler, Martina Lutkova, Olli Mäenpää, Björn Thoma and Hrvoje Zmajic.

### CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the Tennis Europe offices in Basel will close at midday on 24th December, and re-open on Monday 5th January 2009.

### NEWS FROM NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Derek Howorth is the new President of the British **Lawn Tennis Association**, while Roger Draper has renewed his contract as Chief Executive Officer.

### EUROPEAN RACQUET STRINGERS ASSOCIATION

The latest issue of ERSA's newsletter has been published and is available to download [here](#).

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## HEADlines

# HEAD®

### Stanislas Wawrinka speaks to HEAD

Swissman **Stanislas Wawrinka** managed to enter the Top 10 in 2008 and achieved his career-high #9 last June. Furthermore, he won the Olympic doubles Gold medal in Beijing. In an exclusive interview with HEAD, he talks about his great 2008 season, his goals for 2009 and about the very demanding life on tour.

***You recently claimed the Olympic doubles gold medal with Roger Federer at the Beijing Games: what was your Olympic experience like and how did it feel to win a gold medal for your country?***

Obviously, it was an unbelievable experience and my greatest success in my career so far. It was the first Olympic experience for me – you know, to be in the Olympic village with all the Swiss athletes. The victory was very emotional and to win the tournament and share it with my friend Roger was like a dream come true.

***At the end of 2007 you were ranked #36. How would you explain your great development in 2008 and breaking into the Top 10?***

In 2007, I had a pretty serious injury, when I broke my knee and so I lost four months of playing tournaments. I was working very hard to come back and I already played very good in the end of 2007 and could fortunately conserve my form in 2008.

***What are your goals/expectations for 2009?***

I would really like to attend the Tennis Masters Cup in London in 2009 and of course I would also like to win once I am there.

***Who is your best friend on tour respectively with whom do you spend most of the time?***

I spend a lot of time with Swiss players, especially with my friend Roger. Further, I often hang out with Marcos Baghdatis and Andy Murray and some of the young French players.

***Your coach Dimitri Zavialoff has worked together with you for more than 12 years. This is a very long time in today's tennis - Was there never a situation when you thought about changes?***

No, because as long as I work with Dimitri, my ranking always went up and I could improve my

game. And I think that there is still potential to go higher.

***Is there tournament would you like to win in particular?***

Definitely the French Open.

***How do you spend the last 30 minutes before a match?***

Nothing special. I stay in the locker room with my Physio and prepare my racquets.

***When did you start to play tennis?***

At the age of 8.

***Was there a tennis player you idolized when you were a kid?***

I didn't really have a player I idolized, but I enjoyed to watch the matches of Pete Sampras.

***How would your friends or peers describe you?***

I would say friendly, honest and probably a bit shy.

***Last, but not least - how do you see your partnership with HEAD?***

I play HEAD racquets for many years. It feels good to belong to this team and to play a great racquet. For me, it was definitely the right decision. I am very happy with the company and the relationships to all the people there could not be better.

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Tennis Europe (by constitution European Tennis Federation) is a non-profit organising body of European tennis, based in Basel, Switzerland. The Federation is comprised of 49 European Member Nations and maintains excellent relationships with the sports' governing bodies. Tennis Europe sanctions, supports and manages more than 1000 international tennis events (competitions, conferences and promotional campaigns) each year across the continent.

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If you are interested and available as of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2009, please send your application letter and CV for the attention of Magnus Grönvold to [magnusg@tenniseurope.org](mailto:magnusg@tenniseurope.org).